

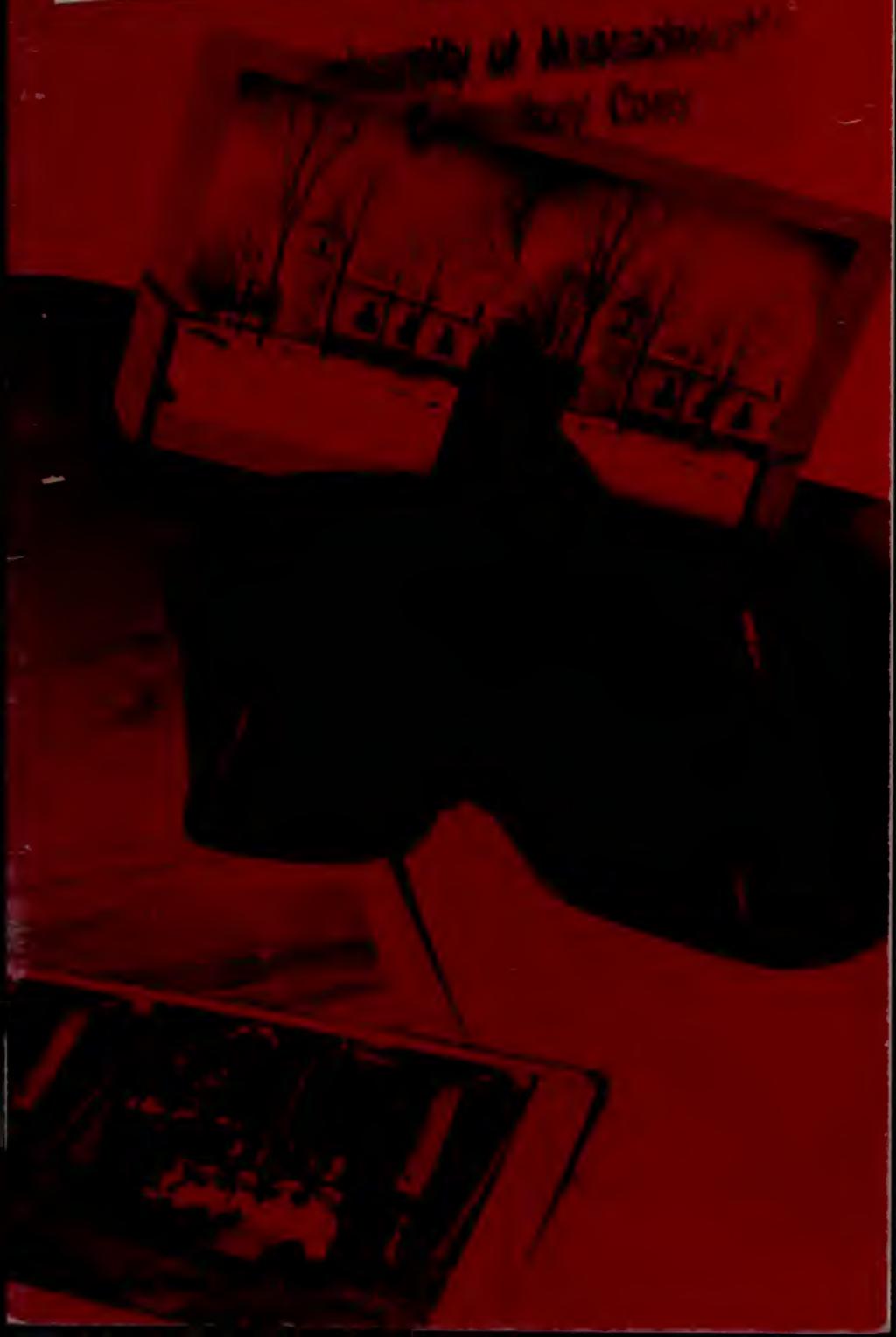
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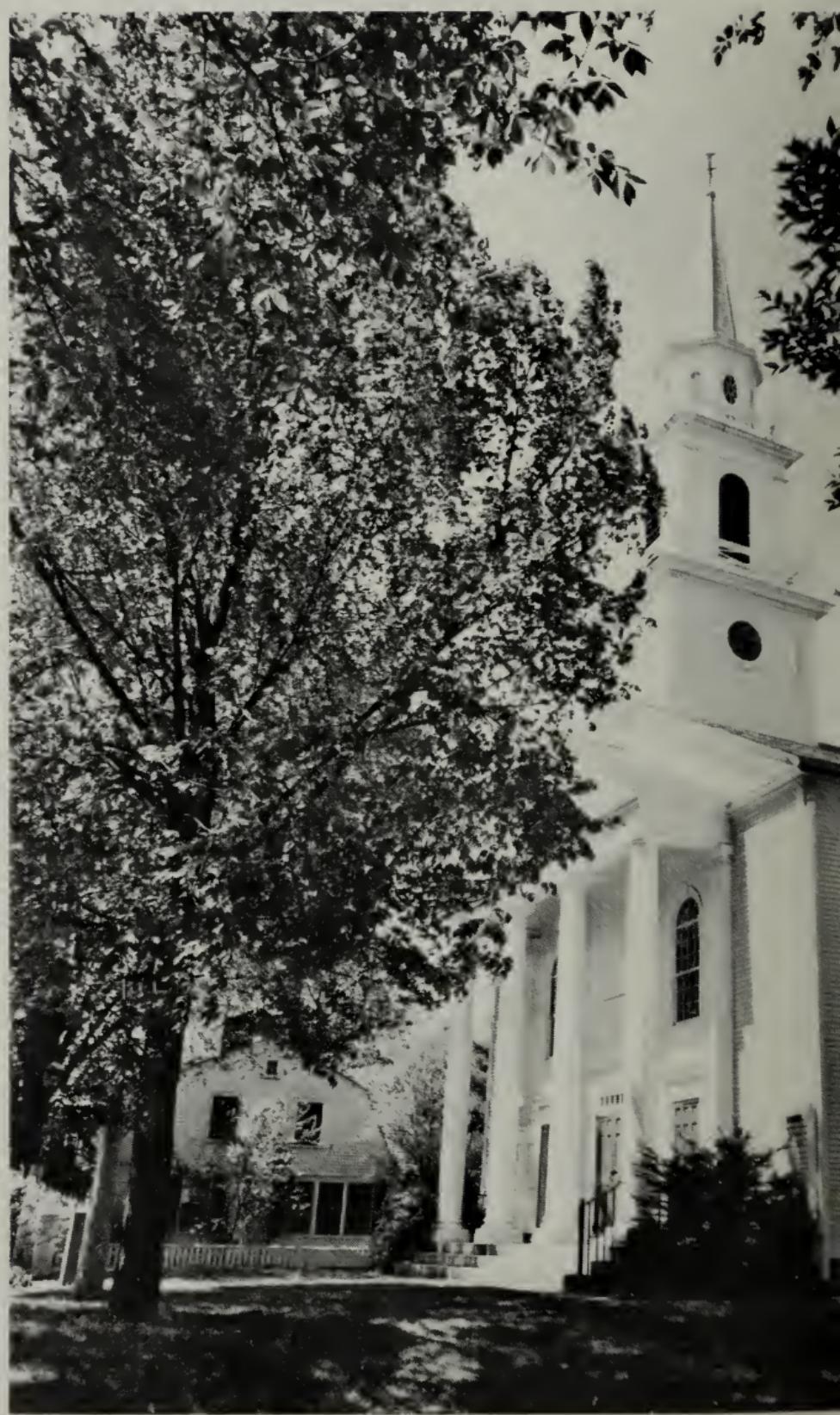
# Images of the Pioneer Valley

a guide to our historic  
heritage



University of Massachusetts  
Cultural Center







The long and rich history of the Pioneer Valley is evident in its settlement and development patterns, in its form of government and in its wealth of historic, well-preserved buildings, monuments and other cultural artifacts.

Reminders of our origins — of our history — are nowhere more evident than on the landscape, in our built environment. Physical manifestations, as disparate as . . .

- stately, tree-lined town greens
- Civil War cannon standing guard at town hall
- an old industrial complex reflected in the mill pond
- staid, white clapboard houses
- an iron truss bridge spanning the river
- great, whimsical Victorian mansions
- church steeples towering over the trees
- remnants of an old canal skirting the city

. . . all reflect the events, technologies, ideas and personages of times past.

*These are the images of the  
Pioneer Valley*

# *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

## **IDENTITY**

A town is undeniably more than a collection of buildings. However the buildings and their appearance are the town's most obvious, identifiable and valuable feature. A well-maintained, architecturally distinctive building stock, evocative of a past era, presents a pleasing image to residents and visitors alike.



## **PROSPERITY**

A community's existing building stock represents both monetary and energy savings. These structures were built at a time when materials, labor costs and interest rates were much lower than they are today. They could never be replaced for their original cost. The existent building stock is the cornerstone of the town's economic base.



## **COMMUNITY**

Older buildings are usually located where buildings should be located: within reach of the people who will use them. They are accessible to the less mobile populations: the young, elderly, handicapped and non-automobile owners. The development of town centers has historically been on a pedestrian scale — people were able to walk from home to work, church, store, etc. This siting is the key factor to neighborhood pride and community involvement.



## HISTORY

One can almost read the buildings like a book. They reflect such things as the age of the town, its early businesses and industries, its ethnic influences and its period of affluence.



## BEAUTY

Retention and rehabilitation of historic structures enhances the aesthetic character of the town as well. The pleasing mix of old with new, elaborate with functional, venerable with contemporary, contributes to the uniqueness of each town. The art and pride of craftsmen of old come shining through.



## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Hampden and Hampshire Counties in western Massachusetts have a heritage rich in history and in historic structures. Over fifty individual buildings and hundreds of buildings in more than twenty-five historic districts have been recognized as especially significant, and have been honored by nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register is the Nation's official list of important cultural resources. It includes buildings, districts, sites, structures, and objects which retain their integrity and reflect some significant aspect of local, state or national history. These properties stand as proud reminders of the peoples and events of times past.



Owners of property listed in the National Register become eligible to apply for certain preservation grants and/or federal income tax credits. Listing in the National Register places no constraints on what owners may do to the interior or exterior of their property when using private funds.

Aside from some commercial and industrial properties, most National Register structures are private residences which are not open for public inspection. For the most part, these National Register houses should be enjoyed from a distance, with respect for the owners' privacy.

**AGAWAM**

CAPTAIN CHARLES LEONARD HOUSE, 663 Main St

**AMHERST**

AMHERST RAILROAD STATION, Railroad St

CONKEY-STEVENS HOUSE, 664 Main St

DICKINSON HISTORIC DISTRICT, Kellogg Ave, Main, Gray & Lessey St

EMILY DICKINSON HOMESTEAD, 280 Main St

**BELCHERTOWN**

BELCHERTOWN CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, Town Common, South Main & Maple

WALKER-COLLINS HOUSE, 1 Stadler St

**CHICOPEE**

AMES MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 5-7 Springfield St

EDWARD BELLAMY HOUSE, 91-93 Church St

CHICOPEE CITY HALL, Market Square

DWIGHT MANUFACTURING COMPANY HOUSING DISTRICT, Front, Depot, Dwight, Exchange & Chestnut

POLISH NATIONAL HOME, 136-144 Cabot St

VALENTINE SCHOOL, Grape & Elm St

**CUMMINGTON**

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT HOMESTEAD, Bryant Rd

**EAST LONGMEADOW**

ELIJAH BURT HOUSE, 201 Chestnut St

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LONGMEADOW, 7 Somers Rd

MERVIN PEASE HOUSE, 191 Pease Rd

**GOSHEN**

MOUNTAIN REST, Spruce Corners Rd

**HADLEY**

HADLEY CENTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, Russell & Middle St

PORTER-PHELPS-HUNTINGTON HOUSE, 130 River Dr

**HAMPDEN**

THORNTON W. BURGESS HOUSE, 789 Main St

**HATFIELD**

OLD MILL SITE HISTORIC DISTRICT, 48 & 50 Prospect St

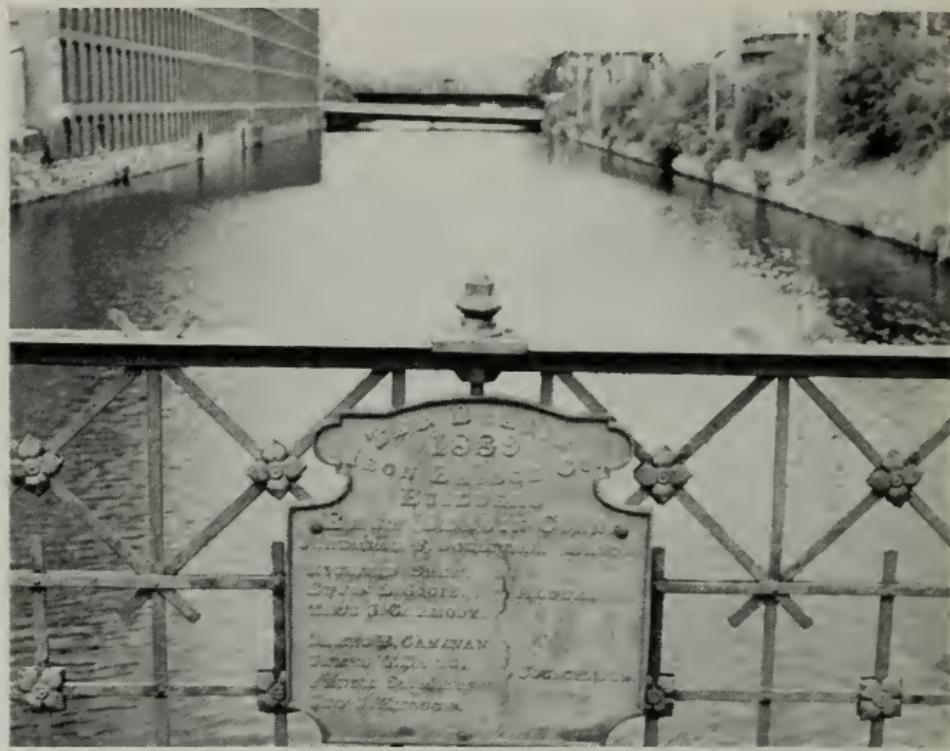
**HOLYOKE**

WISTARIAHURST, 283 Cabot St

CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 185-193 High St

HADLEY FALLS COMPANY HOUSING DISTRICT, Center, North Canal, Grover & Lyman St

## *Images of the Pioneer Valley*



**HOLYOKE CANAL SYSTEM**, Front, South & Connecticut River

**HOLYOKE CITY HALL**, 536 Dwight St

**MAPLEWOOD HOTEL**, 328-330 Maple St

### **LONGMEADOW**

**LONGMEADOW HISTORIC DISTRICT**, Longmeadow Green

### **MIDDLEFIELD**

**MIDDLEFIELD-BECKET STONE ARCH RAILROAD BRIDGE DISTRICT**, Along Westfield River in Middlefield, Chester & Becket



## *National Register of Historic Places*

### **NORTHAMPTON**

CALVIN COOLIDGE HOUSE, 19-21 Massasoit St  
DIMMOCK ESTATE (GROVE HILL MANSION), Florence Rd & Front St  
DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT, Hampton, Pearl, Strong, Bedford & Elm St., MA 66 & RR tracks  
MANSE, 54 Prospect St  
SMITH ALUMNAE GYMNASIUM, Green St

### **PELHAM**

PELHAM HILL CHURCH, Amherst Rd & Daniel Shays Hwy  
PELHAM TOWN HALL HISTORIC DISTRICT, Amherst Rd  
**SOUTH HADLEY**  
WOODBRIDGE STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT, Silver & Woodbridge St

### **SPRINGFIELD**

ALEXANDER HOUSE, 284 State St  
AMES HILL/CRESCENT HILL DISTRICT, Central, Maple, Mill, Pine, Crescent, Ames Hill & Maple Court  
APREMONT TRIANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Pearl, Hillman, Bridge & Chestnut St  
BANGS BLOCK, 1119 Main St  
BAYSTATE CORSET BLOCK, Dwight & Taylor St  
BICYCLE CLUB BUILDING, 264-270 Worthington St  
BURBACH BLOCK, 1113-1115 Main St  
CARLTON HOUSE BLOCK, 9-13 Hampden St  
CHAPIN NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, 1675-1677 Main St  
COLONIAL BLOCK, 1139-1155 Main St  
COURT SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main, State, Broadway & Pynchon St & City Hall Place  
CUTLER AND PORTER BLOCK, 109 Lyman St  
DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD RAILROAD DISTRICT, Lyman, Main, Murray & Spring St  
DRISCOLL'S BLOCK, 211-213 Worthington St  
FIRST CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL, 50 Elm St  
FITZGERALD'S STEARNS SQUARE BLOCK, 300-308 Bridge St  
FOREST PARK HEIGHTS HISTORIC DISTRICT, Longhill, Belmont & Washington  
FRENCH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 33-37 Bliss St  
FULLER BLOCK, 1531-1545 Main St  
GUENTHER AND HANDEL'S BLOCK, 7-9 Stockbridge St  
GUNN AND HUBBARD BLOCKS, 463-477 State St  
HAMPDEN COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Elm St  
HAMPDEN SAVINGS BANK, 1665 Main St  
HAYNES HOTEL, 1386-1402 Main St  
HENKING HOTEL AND CAFE, 15-21 Lyman St  
HIBERNIAN BLOCK, 345-349 Worthington St

## *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

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KENNEDY-WORTHINGTON BLOCKS, 1585 Main & 166-190 Worthington St

MAPLE-UNION CORNERS, 77, 83, 76-78, 80-84 Maple

MASONIC TEMPLE, 339-341 State St

MCINTOSH BUILDING, 158-164 Chestnut St

MCKINNEY BUILDING, 1121-1127 Main St

MCKNIGHT HISTORIC DISTRICT, Penn Central, State, the Armory, Campus Place & Dartmouth

MEMORIAL SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main & Plainfield St

MEMORIAL SQUARE LIBRARY, Plainfield St

1767 MILESTONES

MILLS-STEBBINS VILLA, 3 Crescent St

MILTON-BRADLEY COMPANY, Park, Cross & Willow

MORGAN BLOCK, 313-333 Bridge St

MUNICIPAL GROUP STREET LIGHTS

OLMSTED-HIXON-ALBION BLOCK, 1645-1659 Main St

PATTON AND LOOMIS BLOCK, 1628-1640 Main St

PATTON BUILDING, 15-19 Hampden St

PRODUCE EXCHANGE BUILDING, 194-206 Chestnut & 115-125 Lyman St

QUADRANGLE-MATTOON STREET, 11, 25, 29, 31 Mattoon St

QUADRANGLE-MATTOON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT, Chestnut, State, Mattoon, Edwards, Elliott & Salem

RADDING BUILDING, 143-147 State St

REPUBLICAN BLOCK, 1365 Main St

SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX MEMORIAL CHURCH, 8 Plainfield St

SANDERSON THEATER, 1676-1708 Main St

SMITH CARRIAGE COMPANY DISTRICT, Main, Peabody, Willow & Park

SMITH'S BUILDING, 201-207 Worthington St

SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 45 Maple St

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Armory Square

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT COURT, 1600 E. Columbus Avenue

SPRINGFIELD FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, 195 State St

SPRINGFIELD RAILWAY-TROLLEY BARN, 2257 Main St

SPRINGFIELD STEAM POWER COMPANY BLOCK, 51-59 Taylor St

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, Howard St & E. Columbus Avenue

STACY BUILDING, 41-43 Taylor St

STATE ARMORY, 29 Howard St

STEARNS BUILDING, 289-309 Bridge St

TRINITY BLOCK, 266-284 Bridge St

UNION TRUST COMPANY BUILDING, 1351 Main St

UNITED ELECTRIC COMPANY BUILDING, 73 State St



**UPPER WORTHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT**, Worthington, Federal, Summit & Armory

**WALKER BUILDING**, 1228-1244 Main St

**WASON-SPRINGFIELD POWER CO. BUILDING**, 27-43 Lyman & 26-50 Taylor

**WATER SHOPS ARMORY**, 1 Allen St

**WCA BOARDING HOUSE**, 19 Bliss St

**WELLS BLOCK**, 250-264 Worthington St

**WHITCOMB WAREHOUSE**, 32-34 Hampden St

**WILLY'S OVERLAND BLOCK**, 151-157 Chestnut & 10-20 Winter

**WINCHESTER SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT**, State & Wilbraham

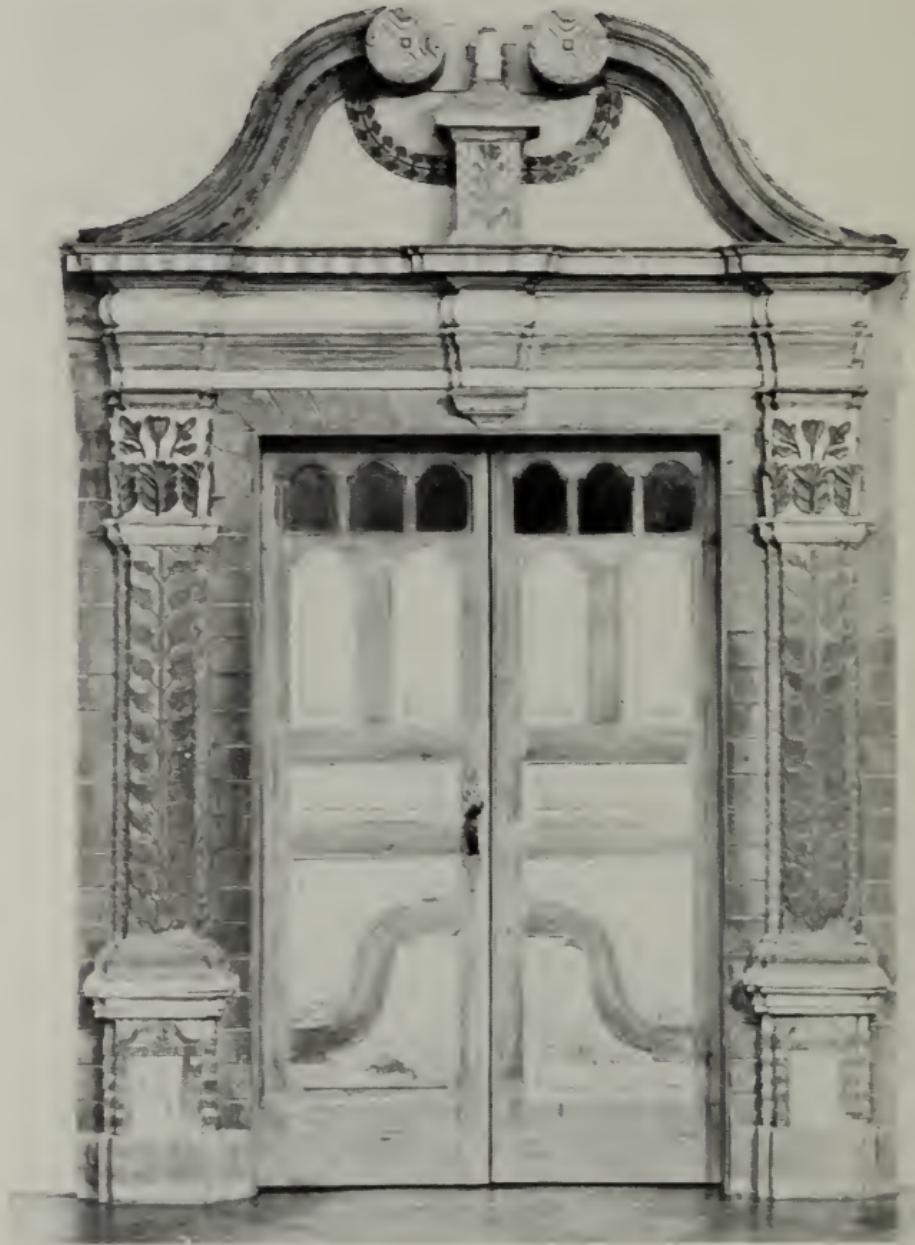
**WORTHY HOTEL**, 1571 Main

**WARE**

**OTIS COMPANY MILL BUILDING #1**, East Main St

**WEST SPRINGFIELD**

**JOSIAH DAY HOUSE**, 70 Park St



### **WESTFIELD**

LANDLORD FOWLER TAVERN, 171 Main St

OCTAGON HOUSE, 28 King St

STATE NORMAL TRAINING SCHOOL, Washington St

WESTFIELD MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 59 Court St

### **WILBRAHAM**

ACADEMY HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main to Faculty St &  
Mountain Rd.

### **WILLIAMSBURG**

HAYDENVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main, High, Kingsley

WILLIAMSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT, Main, North Main,  
East Main, Williams & Buttonshop Rd

## LOCAL HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

In addition to the many historic properties which have been formally recognized as significant (via the National Register process), there are countless other valuable, historic buildings on the streets of every town in the Valley. Many are rich, ornate, "high style" examples of the architects' and craftsmen's art, while others — just as important — are simpler and less pretentious, reflecting more limited circumstances or a more rural environment.

Many historically or architecturally distinguished buildings also serve as repositories for local historical collections, memorabilia or antiques of all sorts. Most towns in the Valley have organizations, such as historical societies, which maintain museums dedicated to local history. These collections are generally open to the public for guided tours, presentations or displays.

Buildings other than official historical museums may also harbor historic information and artifacts. Collections of interest to genealogical researchers, history buffs or persons delving into the past of their old home are often housed in the town hall, library or other public building.

History is truly "all around us", and a closer look at your neighborhood, town or region will reveal a wealth of fascinating structures and artifacts.

### AGAWAM

**CAPTAIN CHARLES LEONARD HOUSE**, 663 Main St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Caretaker (413) 786-9421

Fine example of Georgian architecture (1805) believed to have been designed by the famous New England architect, Asher Benjamin. Beautifully detailed interior rooms are furnished with many pieces of authentic furniture.



## *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

### **AMHERST**

#### **THE DICKINSON HOMESTEAD, 280 Main St**

May 1-Sept 30 on Tues & Fri; Oct through Apr, Tues only.

Tours at 3, 3:45 and 4:30 pm by appointment only. Admission charge.

Contact: Public Affairs Office, Amherst College (413) 542-2321

Birthplace of Emily Dickinson, 19th century poet, born 1830, died 1886. Period furnishings and some Dickinson mementoes.

#### **STRONG HOUSE MUSEUM, 67 Amity St**

Open June-Aug, Tues & Fri, 1-4 pm. Admission charge.

Contact: Ann May, Curator (413) 253-2678

Built by Nehemiah Strong in 1744. The museum exhibits ten rooms furnished with period furniture, china, art objects, costumes, Revolutionary and Civil War relics, and farm and industrial artifacts. 18th century garden.

### **BELCHERTOWN**

#### **STONE HOUSE MUSEUM, Maple St**

May 15-Oct 15, Wed & Sat, 2-5 pm & by appointment.

Admission charge.

Contact: Helen Lister (413) 323-7502

1827 dwelling constructed of native fieldstone. Contains collection of locally owned 18th and 19th century furnishings, china, pewter and over 30 "Rogers Groups" statuettes. Fieldstone barn (built in 1920s with funds from Henry Ford) houses collection of locally produced vehicles.



### **BLANDFORD**

#### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Main St (Rt 23) and North St**

Memorial Day, Labor Day & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Hap Bush (413) 848-2787

The museum is located in Blandford's first schoolhouse (c. 1755). One special room exhibits furniture, pictures and other relics saved from the demolished Watson House. Also mementoes of early industries in town.

## **Local Historical Collections**

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### **BRIMFIELD**

**SHERMAN ROOM, BRIMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY**, Rt 20  
Room is staffed on Wed only; library is open TWThSa from 2:30-5:30 pm, W & Sa, 7:30-9 pm; closed Tues in Jan, Feb & March. Donations welcome.

Contact: Mrs. Robertson, Librarian (413) 245-3518

Small documentary museum with a few artifacts, historical and genealogical records. Of special note are oil paintings by local artists and photographs made from c. 1890 glass plate negatives.

### **CHESTER**

**CHESTER MUSEUM**, School St (2nd floor of old high school)  
May 30-Sept 1, Wed, 7-9 pm, Sat & Sun 1-4 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Edwin Schlossberg (413) 354-6541

Photographs, artifacts and memorabilia donated by Chester residents. Two permanent exhibits on minerals, rare stones and mining in the Chester area. Summer exhibition series on various topics.

### **CHESTERFIELD**

**EDWARDS MEMORIAL MUSEUM**, North Rd, Chesterfield Center

June-Sept, Sat, 2-4 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Ruth Z. Temple, Curator (413) 296-4759

Local historical objects and documents. Household and farm tools, vintage clothing, embroidery and quilts.

### **CHICOPEE**

**EDWARD BELLAMY HOUSE**, 91-93 Church St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Stephen Jendrysik (413) 594-6496

Birthplace of Edward Bellamy, world-famous author of "Looking Backward". Historical restoration of architecturally significant Greek Revival structure. Period furnishings and Bellamy memorabilia.

### **CUMMINGTON**

**WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT HOMESTEAD**, Bryant Rd (off Cummington Rd)

June 15-Oct 15, Sat, Sun & holidays, 1-5 pm. Admission charge.

Contact: Bruce Harrison (413) 634-2244

Birthplace and home of famous American poet ("Thanatopsis"). Furnished with Bryant's own belongings.

**KINGMAN TAVERN HISTORICAL MUSEUM**, Main St, Cummington Village

July & Aug, Sat, 2-5 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Thelma Whiting (413) 634-5312 or Mildred Bates (413) 634-8866

The town's first post office, and also once a tavern, is now a museum overflowing with artifacts from Cummington's past. Each room has a different theme: Tavern Room, Ladies' Parlor, Doctor's office, Sewing Room, Children's Playroom. Especially impressive is the authentic, well-stocked, re-creation of the T.O. Hamlen General Store.

## *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

### **EASTHAMPTON**

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOUSE**, 7 Holyoke St (Rt 141)  
Apr-Dec, Sun, 3-5 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Dorothy Miller (413) 527-4417

Large (14 rooms) completely furnished house museum. Much Victorian-era furniture. Interesting displays of period clothing, military memorabilia and artifacts relating to Easthampton's button industry.

### **EAST LONGMEADOW**

**HISTORICAL HEADQUARTERS/MUSEUM**, 25 Maple St  
Open 1st Sun, May-Dec, 2-4 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Jeanne P. Goodlatte (413) 525-2354

Period furnishings, costumes and artifacts. Exhibits of brownstone industry, and old-time kitchen utensils. Bicentennial Quilt features 42 historic buildings and scenes.

### **GOSHEN**

**GOSHEN HISTORICAL MUSEUM**, Main St. (Rt 9)

July & Aug, Sun, 2-4 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Stephen Mollison (413) 268-3241

Old chapel building houses small but varied collection of Goshen artifacts.

### **GRANVILLE**



**MABEL ROOT ROOM, GRANVILLE LIBRARY**, Main St and Granby Rd

Wed & Sat, 2-5 pm & by appointment; closed during winter.  
Donations welcome.

Contact: Librarian (413) 357-8531

Richardsonian Romanesque-style library was built in 1900 through efforts of 13 members of Women's Library Club. Displays of local antiques (dolls, old glass) and memorabilia, the town's Bicentennial quilt, and an extensive collection of miniatures.

## **GRANBY**

**GRANBY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**, Town House,  
Granby Common  
Open by appointment. Donations welcome.  
Contact: Isabel Mondor (413) 536-4169.

Old schoolhouse built in 1822 from timbers originally a part of the old Meeting House. Contents include memorials, books, pictures, documents, curios, geological and Natural History specimens. Also antique furniture and articles of household use.

## **HADLEY**

**HADLEY FARM MUSEUM**,  
Junction Rt 9 and 47  
May 15-Oct 15, Tues-Sat,  
10 am-4:30 pm; Sun.,  
1:30-4:30 pm. Donations  
welcome.  
Contact: George L. Pratt  
(413) 584-8279

Collection of farm-related articles dating from the late 1600s to the turn of the century. Collection includes hand tools, carpenter's, blacksmith's and wheelwright's tools, plows, harrows, looms, spinning wheels and much more. Also many vehicles.



**HADLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**, Goodwin Memorial Library, Middle St  
Open by appointment. Donations welcome.  
Contact: Dorothy M. Russell (413) 584-8969 or Librarians (413) 584-7451

Artifacts, memorabilia and pictures of former residents of Hadley from Indian times to the present.

## *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

**PORTER PHELPS HUNTINGTON HOUSE**, 130 River Dr  
May 14-Oct 15, Sat-Wed, 1-4:30 pm. Admission charge.  
Contact: Susan J. Lisk, Curator (413) 584-4699

Built in 1752 by Moses Porter on a tract of land known as "Forty Acres and Its Skirts", this was the first house built outside the Hadley stockade. The house was enlarged and refined in 1770. Since 1799 there have been no structural changes. The objects in the house are not a collection — they are a family accumulation of ten successive generations.

### **HAMPDEN**

**ACADEMY HALL MUSEUM (HAMPDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY)**, 616 Main St

Open 4th Sun, June-Oct, 2-5 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Beryle Doten (413) 566-3466

This Grecian-pillared building was constructed in 1850. Collections include fine examples of Colonial (1790) needlework, 19th and 20th century clothing, early household and farm tools. Also diaries and military items from Revolutionary and Civil Wars.



**THORNTON W. BURGESS HOUSE**, Laughing Brook Education Center, 789 Main St

Apr 1-Nov 1, Tues-Sun, 10 am-3 pm; Nov 1-Mar 31, weekends only, 11 am-3 pm. Admission includes entry to both House and Wildlife Sanctuary.

Contact: Lisa Carpenter (413) 566-8034

Former home of noted children's author, Thornton W. Burgess, who wrote 70 books and 16,000 bedtime stories about wildlife. Oldest house (c. 1780) in the village of Hampden. Fine example of early post and beam construction. Furnished with early 1900 furniture and many colonial era items.

### **HATFIELD**

**HATFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM**, Public Library, 39 Main St

Fri, 7-9 pm except Jan & Feb. Donations welcome.

Contact: Robert Sawicki (413) 247-5236

Extensive collection of memorabilia from Hatfield and surrounding towns. Items of everyday use (furniture, china, quilts, clothing, jewelry), musical instruments, old paintings, ledgers and diaries of early settlers, fossils and Indian artifacts.

### **HOLYOKE**

**WISTARIAHURST,**  
238 Cabot St  
Tues-Sat, 1-5 pm. Donations welcome.  
Contact: Marie S. Quirk,  
Director (413) 536-6771

Home of William Skinner, founder of Skinner Silk Mills in Holyoke. The Skinner family was important to both the cultural and industrial life of the city. Noteworthy features of the museum include a leather "papered" room, the marble Music Hall, Tiffany peacock window and a variety of decorative woods and plasterwork.



### **HUNTINGTON**

**NORWICH BRIDGE SCHOOLHOUSE**, Worthington (Rt 112) and Littleville Rds  
Open by appointment. Donations welcome.  
Contact: Beverly Marotte (413) 667-3003 or Grace Wheeler (413) 667-3438

This c. 1825 one-room schoolhouse serves as a museum and local genealogical library. Interesting architectural details include a rounded ceiling and meandering stencil border.

### **LONGMEADOW**

**STORRS HOUSE**, 697 Longmeadow St  
Wed & Thurs, 9 am-Noon; tours by appointment. Donations welcome.  
Contact: Curator (413) 567-3600

Home of the Longmeadow Historical Society. Built in 1785, the house has eight rooms furnished with art, artifacts and furniture from early town families.

### **MIDDLEFIELD**

**MIDDLEFIELD HISTORICAL MUSEUM**, Old Town Hall, Main St  
June-Labor Day, Sun, 2-4 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.  
Contact: Marjorie Batorski (413) 623-8904

Contains artifacts, diaries, newspaper articles, old photographs, tools, and a good collection of 18th and 19th century clothing; some small pieces of antique furniture.

### **MONSON**

**G.A.R HALL (MARCUS KEEP POST #155)**, Memorial Town Hall, Main St  
Open weekdays by appointment. Donations welcome.  
Contact: Selectmen's Office (413) 267-5510

Impressive collection of military articles (swords, uniforms, currency, photos) from Civil War and World Wars I & II. Memorial Hall, itself, — a massive, granite Romanesque structure — was built by the public-spirited citizens of 1885 to honor their patriot soldiers.

## *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

### **MONTGOMERY**

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM (OLD TOWN HOUSE),  
Main Rd**

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Gregory Smith (413) 862-3246

Built in 1849, one of 3 Greek Revival buildings which form the small town center. Donated artifacts: salt bags, old clothing, farm implements, books, maps.

### **NORTHAMPTON**

**DAMON HOUSE, 46 Bridge St**

Houses open Wed, Sat & Sun, 2-4 pm & by appointment. Office open Mon-Fri, 9 am-5 pm. Admission. (Group rates available).

Contact: Northampton Historical Society (413) 584-6011

Built in 1813 by noted architect Isaac Damon for his own use. Society's considerable collection of 19th century dresses, bonnets, accessories and textiles are housed here. Caleb Strong room includes mementoes of Massachusetts' 11-term governor, including Hadley-type dower chest of his daughter, Sarah Strong.



**PARSONS HOUSE, 58 Bridge St**

Open as above. Admission charge.

Contact: Northampton Historical Society (413) 584-6011

C. 1728 house has undergone many alterations over the years. Interesting exhibit traces these architectural changes. 1840s parlor scene, featuring 2nd piano made in Northampton, recreates courting of Mary Wright by Theodore Bliss.

**SHEPHERD HOUSE, 66 Bridge St**

Open as above. Admission charge.

Contact: Northampton Historical Society, (413) 584-6011

Since its construction in 1796 the house has been lived in continuously by one family. Its collection of artifacts from many generations (including mementoes from travel abroad), chronicles one family's changing tastes. C. 1825 barn has an Indian exhibit and collection of signs and weather vanes.

**CALVIN COOLIDGE MEMORIAL ROOM, Forbes Library, 20 West St**

Mon-Sat, 9-5 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Lawrence Wikander (413) 584-8300 or Blaise Bisaillon (413) 584-8399

Unofficial Presidential Library containing manuscripts and memorabilia (both personal and political) of 30th President of the United States.

## **Local Historical Collections**

### **CLAPP HOUSE, 148 South St**

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Caroline Brandt (413) 584-0569

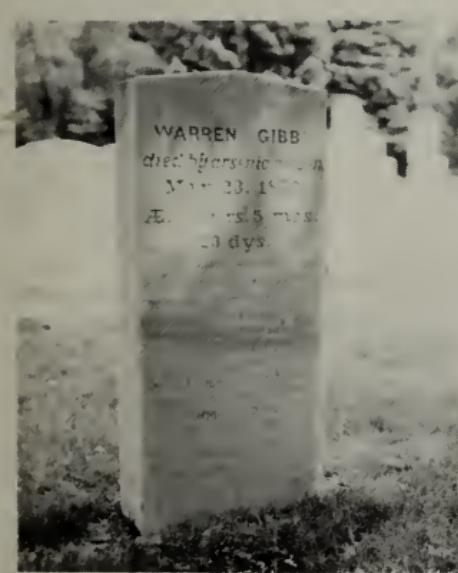
The house, now owned by the local D.A.R., is said by some to have been built in 1713. Others date the building to 1760. 18th century antique furnishings throughout house.

### **FLORENCE CIVIC AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, Park St, Florence**

Tues, 10 am-Noon & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Francis LaMountain (413) 584-9558

Florence memorabilia, especially documents and artifacts pertaining to Florence Corticella Silk Mills.



### **PELHAM**

#### **PELHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM,**

Pelham Rd & Rt 202

June-Sept, Sun, 1:30-4:30 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Louise Partridge (413) 253-3800

Building is former Congregational Church, built in 1839. Museum houses famed "Poison Oyster Tombstone", plus reminders of Pelham's history: maps, photographs, 18th and 19th century tools.

### **PLAINFIELD**

#### **SHAW-HUDSON HOUSE MUSEUM & PLAINFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Main (Rt 116) & Central St**

Open by appointment. Admission charge.

Contact: Frederick Tirrell (413) 634-5397

This 1833 structure contains a 19th century doctor's office preserved exactly as it was when Dr. Shaw practiced here. The upper floor houses the collections and displays of the Plainfield Historical Society.

# *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

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## **SOUTH HADLEY**

### **FIRE HOUSE MUSEUM, 3 North Main St**

June-Oct, Sun, 1:30-4:30 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: James B. Allen (413) 532-1879 or Irene Cronin (413) 536-3057

Collection of early fire fighting equipment. Also South Hadley and national memorabilia: old books, documents and postcards.

### **JOSEPH A. SKINNER MUSEUM, 35 Woodbridge St**

May-Oct, Wed & Sun, 2-5 pm. Donations welcome.

Contact: Director (413) 538-2416

The museum houses the collection of Joseph Allen Skinner, son of Holyoke silk mill magnate William Skinner. It includes early American furnishings and decorative arts, tools, native American artifacts, carriages and collection of birds native to Massachusetts. The museum building was constructed in 1846 as the First Congregational Church for the town of Prescott. It was moved to its present site in the 1930s when Prescott was dismantled and flooded to create the Quabbin Reservoir.

## **SOUTHAMPTON**

### **CLARK-CHAPMAN HOUSE, College Hwy (Rt 10)**

July 4th & 1st Sat in Aug, 1-4 pm & by appointment.

Donations welcome.

Contact: Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Hendrick, Curators (413) 527-3933

Headquarters of Southampton Historical Society. 19th century home (1827) filled with period furnishings, local photographs and Southampton memorabilia.

### **OLD NORTH SCHOOL HOUSE, Conant Park, College Hwy**

July 4th and 1st Sat in Aug, 1-4 pm & by appointment.

Donations welcome.

Contact: Olga Sudnick (413) 527-0236

Restored district school.

## **SPRINGFIELD**

### **FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL, Court Square**

Mon-Fri, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; appointments recommended.

Donations welcome.

Contact: Office (413) 737-1411

Old First Church was the first formally organized (1637) congregation in the area. The present Greek Revival structure was designed by Isaac Damon and built in 1819. Beautiful interior and antique furnishings.

### **INDIAN MOTOCYCLE MUSEUM, 33 Hendee St**

Daily, 1-5 pm. Admission charge.

Contact: Office (413) 737-2624

The Indian Motorcycle (it is spelled correctly: no "r"!) was the first motorcycle manufactured in the United States. In 1902 George Hendee formed the Hendee Manufacturing Company and began producing these vehicles, which served as a major mode of transportation until the 1940s. Collection includes various models of motorcycles, antique Columbia bicycles, motorized toboggan, etc.

**SPRINGFIELD ARMORY MUSEUM**, Corner of State & Federal St  
Daily, 8:30 am-4:30 pm.  
Donations welcome.  
Contact: Larry Lowenthal  
(413) 734-6477

From 1794 to 1968 the Springfield Armory was a center for the manufacture of U.S. military small arms. A large weapons museum is housed in the original (1850) main arsenal building. The Organ of Rifles, on display here, inspired Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to write "The Arsenal at Springfield". The Museum contains a sample of every gun made at the Armory, plus rare and historic weapons, posters and costumes.



### **THE QUADRANGLE**, State & Chestnut Sts

Hours vary. Admission charges vary.

Contact: City Library, (413) 739-3080

Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, (413) 732-3080

George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum (413) 733-4214

Springfield Fine Arts Museum, (413) 732-6092

Springfield Science Museum, (413) 732-4317

Organized in 1857 this educational and cultural center offers a concentration of architecturally distinctive historic museum buildings with diverse collections.

### **WARE**

#### **WARE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**, Church St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Mary Baxter (413) 967-6634

Small collection of books, maps and documents detailing Ware's past. Clothing and furniture displays.

### **WEST SPRINGFIELD**



#### **JOSIAH DAY HOUSE**,

70 Park St

Mid-June to mid-Oct, Sat & Sun, 1-5 pm & by appointment. Admission charge.

Contact: Ida J. Hubbell, Curator (413) 734-6587

Built in 1754 by Josiah Day, this is the only solid brick saltbox house from that period in the country. Occupied by Day descendants until 1902, it is furnished largely with their possessions.

## *Images of the Pioneer Valley*

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**STORROWTON VILLAGE MUSEUM**, Eastern States Exposition Grounds.

June-Sept, 11:30 am-4 pm; closed Mon. Admission charge.

Contact: June Cook, Director (413) 736-0632

Seven historic buildings collected from N.E. area by Helen Storow, 1930-1932. Furnished in authentic style. Childrens' supervised Colonial activities.

**EZEKIAL DAY HOUSE**, Westfield St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Park & Recreation Dept (413) 781-7550

Reconstruction. Articles found in "archeological dig" nearby.

## **WESTFIELD**

**DEWEY HOUSE (WESTERN HAMPDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY)**, 87 South Maple St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Barbara Bush, (413) 562-3657 or Helen Wolcott, (413) 568-8539

C. 1735 house restored to its original period. Furnished as an early farmhouse. Historical Society offers educational tours for school children and architectural students.

**EDWIN SMITH HISTORICAL MUSEUM, WESTFIELD**

**ATHENAEUM**, 6 Elm St

MWF & Sa, 1-5 pm; closed during summer months. Donations welcome.

Contact: Harold Maschin, Curator (413) 568-7833

Pioneer and Colonial displays, plus Indian relics. Also collections relating to whip, bicycle, and cigar industries.

## **WESTHAMPTON**

**WESTHAMPTON BLACKSMITH SHOP**, Stage Rd (near church)

June-Sept, Sun 2-4 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Urena Blakesley (413) 527-2683

Restored early 19th century blacksmith shop. Houses collection of local items: farm machinery and tools, sleighs, kitchen utensils, early wedding gowns.

## **WILBRAHAM**

**OLD MEETING HOUSE**, Main St

Open 1st Sun; closed Jan-Mar. Donations welcome.

Contact: Jerry Keating (413) 596-6260

1793 Methodist meeting house. House appointed in 1850's style. Various displays and collections.

## **WILLIAMSBURG**

**WILLIAMSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY**, Main St

Memorial Day to Oct, Sun, 2-5 pm & by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Phyllis Beals (413) 268-7836

Structure is the Old Town Hall, built in 1841. Collection is "a little bit of everything". Striking display of old dresses as well as catalogs and items associated with the Brass industry. Memorabilia of the Great Flood of 1874 which wiped out much of Mill River Valley.

**OLD HILL GRIST MILL FARM MUSEUM**, Mill St

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Lewis Black (413) 268-7767 or David West (413) 268-7645

Structure was originally a grist mill. Museum houses collection of farm tools plus old fire department water wagon and pumper.

**WORTHINGTON**

**RIVERSIDE-CAPEN SCHOOLHOUSE**, Rt 112, Christian Hollow

Open by appointment. Donations welcome.

Contact: Lois Brown (413) 238-7761 or Elizabeth Payne (413) 238-7756

The only one-room school of the town's 12 original ones now preserved. Used as headquarters for Worthington Historical Society. Local artifacts.





**March 1984**

**Credits:**

<i>Research &amp; Writing</i>	ANTOINETTE E. TOMASIK
<i>Graphic Design</i>	SHAUN M. HAYES
<i>Typing</i>	FLORA E. EADES
	GERALD E. KING

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PIONEER  
VALLEY  
PLANNING  
COMMISSION  
26 CENTRAL STREET  
W. SPRINGFIELD, MA. 01089

